

Exercise walk-through

Identifying the narrator or speaker ■ 1.5

eXercise

You must be able to

- state what narrators and speakers do
- distinguish perspective from point of view
- state the CED's warning about the author
- explain why the distinction matters for analysis

Method — What they do

Narrators or speakers relate accounts to readers and establish a relationship between the text and the reader. They do two things: tell, and position the reader.

Method — Two terms

Perspective refers to how narrators, characters or speakers **see their circumstances**; **point of view** refers to **the position from which** a narrator or speaker relates the events. One is a way of seeing, the other a place to stand.

Method — The warning

A speaker or narrator is not necessarily the author. The CED states it flatly because the error is common and it wrecks an analysis.

Method — Why it matters

Attributing a narrator's view to the author converts a literary choice into a biographical claim, and the evidence in the text no longer supports what is being said.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State the two things narrators and speakers do.

Solution 2.1

Method: What they do

Worked steps

they relate accounts to readers **B1** and establish a relationship between the text and the reader **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Distinguish perspective from point of view.

Solution 2.2

Method: Two terms

Worked steps

perspective is how a narrator, character or speaker sees their circumstances **B1**;
point of view is the position from which events are related **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

The CED warns about the author.

- (a) State the warning.
- (b) Explain why the error damages an analysis.

Solution 2.3

Method: The warning

Worked steps

(a) a speaker or narrator is not necessarily the author **B1**. (b) it converts a literary choice into a biographical claim **B1**, which the text's own evidence cannot support **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Point of view refers to

- A** how a speaker sees circumstances
- B** the position from which events are related
- C** the author's opinions
- D** the setting

Solution 3.1

Method: Two terms

- A how a speaker sees circumstances
- B the position from which events are related** 
- C the author's opinions
- D the setting

Worked steps

- B. a position, not a way of seeing.**

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

A narrator is

- A** always the author
- B** not necessarily the author
- C** never a character
- D** always reliable

Solution 3.2

- A** always the author
- B** not necessarily the author
- C** never a character
- D** always reliable



Worked steps

- B.** the CED's flat statement.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A student writes that the author believes what the narrator says.

- (a) State the error.
- (b) Explain what the student should write instead.

Solution 3.3

Method: The warning

Worked steps

(a) attributing the narrator's view to the author **B1**. (b) that the narrator holds the view **B1**, and then what the text does with it **B1**.